

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-8. Canceled.

9. (Currently Amended) A cadmium negative electrode for an alkaline storage battery comprising a porous, sintered nickel coated electrode substrate having its pores filled with a cadmium active substance containing $\beta\text{-Cd(OH)}_2$ and a polyethylene glycol coating covering at least one of a surface of said electrode substrate and a surface of said cadmium active substance.

10. (Previously Presented) The cadmium negative electrode for an alkaline storage battery as claimed in Claim 9, wherein said polyethylene glycol has a mean molecular weight of 600 or higher but not more than 20000.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a cadmium negative electrode for alkaline batteries, which comprises a porous, nickel-coated sintered electrode core body, the process comprising the steps of:

(a) coating a surface of a porous electrically conductive core body with nickel powder,
(b) drying and sintering the product of step (a) to form a nickel sintered electrically conductive core body,

(c) immersing the nickel sintered electrically conductive core body in an impregnating solution containing cadmium nitrate,

(d) drying,

(e) subjecting the dry nickel sintered electrically conductive core body to alkali treatment so that the pores of the nickel sintered core body are filled with cadmium hydroxide to produce a cadmium negative electrode, and

(f) applying polyethylene glycol to a surface of said cadmium negative electrode or a surface of said cadmium hydroxide containing $\beta\text{-Cd(OH)}_2$ by coating or impregnating with polyethylene glycol.

12. (Previously Presented) The method for producing a cadmium negative electrode for an alkaline battery as claimed in Claim 11, wherein, in step (f), said cadmium negative electrode is coated or impregnated with a solution of polyethylene glycol having a mean molecular weight of 600 or higher but not more than 20000 dissolved in a solvent.

13. (Previously Presented) The method for producing a cadmium negative electrode for an alkaline battery as claimed in Claim 11, further comprising a step of (g) drying the cadmium negative electrode after coating or impregnating said active-substance impregnated substrate with said polyethylene glycol.

14. (Previously Presented) The method for producing a cadmium negative electrode for an alkaline battery as claimed in Claim 12, further comprising a step of (g) drying the cadmium negative electrode after coating or impregnating said active-substance impregnated substrate with said polyethylene glycol.

15. (Previously Presented) An alkaline storage battery comprising:
a nickel positive electrode;
a negative electrode;
a separator which separates the positive electrode from the negative electrode;
alkaline electrolyte; and
an outer can which houses the positive electrode, the negative electrode, the separator and the alkaline electrolyte therein;

wherein said negative electrode is a cadmium negative electrode as claimed in claim 9.

16. (Previously Presented) A method for producing an alkaline storage battery comprising the steps of:

- producing a nickel positive electrode;
- producing a negative electrode;
- opposing the positive electrode and the negative electrode through a separator;
- housing the positive electrode, the negative electrode, the separator in an outer can with alkaline electrolyte,

wherein said negative electrode is produced by the method for producing a cadmium negative electrode as claimed in claim 11.